

financially to the scholarship program and the volunteers who also work tirelessly to ensure the success of this model scholarship awards program.

TRIBUTE TO AUTUMN NICOLE MITCHELL OF KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2007

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding young woman, Autumn Nicole Mitchell. Audi, as she is known to her friends and family, made a decision about 18 months ago to help support the Wigs 4 Kids cancer support network by growing her hair and then donating it to other children without hair of their own.

Wigs 4 Kids is a charitable organization that provides wigs and services to children who have lost their hair due to illness or disease. Wigs 4 Kids' main focus is on cancer patients, but also includes other young people who face similar challenges that cause hair loss, including: alopecia, trichotillomania, lupus, hydrocephalus, burns and other disorders. When donating their hair, young girls like Audi must go to special salons that know how the hair must be cut in order to be made into wigs for others.

Audi is a typical, healthy young girl who genuinely cares about her friends and neighbors. Hearing about the thousands of other children who lost their hair to cancer and other diseases, Audi decided on her own that she would grow out her hair so that she could donate it to Wigs 4 Kids. It takes an exceptional type of young person to recognize the needs of others, and then to take affirmative action to help them in their time of need.

Madam Speaker, I have seen the before and after photos of young Audi. Once her long, straight hair is made into a wig, I know that her beautiful hair will look great on another young child looking to regain some of their self-esteem following their hair loss. Audi is to be commended for her selfless act and for being an example to other children in her school and neighborhood. I know that her generosity will be appreciated by the Wigs 4 Kids program, and trust that this act of compassion will follow Audi throughout her life.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP ANGELO ROSARIO

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2007

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Bishop Angelo Rosario, of Bronx, NY. Bishop Rosario is being honored for his leadership and service to the community by the Committee for Effective Leadership and the New York State Democratic Committee. Bishop Angelo M. Rosario has been in pastoral ministry for the past 44 years and embarked on this path at the age of 18 while working with youth

at a storefront church in the South Bronx. His ministerial work was guided by the leadership of the late Rev. Clemente Repollet. Bishop Rosario was the youngest person to be ordained at the Assembly of Christian Churches and remained there for over 25 years. He studied and eventually taught at the A.I.C. Theological Institute and the Latin American Bible Institute.

Bishop Rosario and his wife, Rev. Nancy, founded and presently preside over Church of God's Children in the highly populated housing complex of Co-Op City in the Bronx. This institution presents a wide variety of year-round educational, spiritual and community-minded programs ranging from quality after-school care and pastoral counseling to job placement and health services. Bishop Rosario has organized many activities in the Co-Op City and Bronx Community, among them the Somalia Relief Fund, United Day of Prayer, Youth Day, and job and health fairs.

He is a co-chair of Community Board 10 in the Bronx and is the CEO of the Borough President's Bronx Clergy Task Force whose mission is to bring all faiths together to work for the betterment of the community through quality education health care and financial stability through the houses of worship and community organizations.

From the streets of South Bronx to the pulpit, Bishop Rosario has dedicated himself to helping the community. He is an advocate for community development according to biblical principles. He believes in one race—the human race.

Bishop Rosario and his wife share a family of 10 children and 22 grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I join to wish Bishop Rosario best wishes and good fortune in his future projects.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2007

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 176, passage of H.R. 1284—Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2007, I was unavoidably detained and unable to vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea".

COMMENDING WEYERHAEUSER'S DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Weyerhaeuser Corporation and its wonderful community service in assisting in the relief efforts and the rebuilding of the gulf coast that was devastated by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005. This outstanding company has gone well beyond the call of duty, truly exemplifying what community service is.

The Weyerhaeuser Company was incorporated in 1900, and is one the world's largest

integrated forest product companies, headquartered in Federal Way, Washington, employing over 49,000 people in 18 countries. In 2005, they recorded sales of \$22.6 billion, and the company manages more than 6.5 million acres of timberlands in nine States. I am pleased to note that 14 locations of the Weyerhaeuser Corporation are in Mississippi including several around the Second District.

In recognition of their outstanding community service and dedication to helping those who need it most, Weyerhaeuser Corporation has been recognized with the Ron Brown Award. This is the only Presidential award to honor companies "for their exemplary quality of their relationships with employees and communities." This award is presented to companies that have set forth strong initiatives to strengthen their employees and the community that surrounds them, as well as promote pioneering business initiatives. The Ron Brown Award was originally established by President Bill Clinton after the late Secretary of Commerce, Ron Brown, who believed that "businesses do well by doing good." In my opinion, there is no better choice for this award than the Weyerhaeuser Company for its outstanding work and dedication to our country.

On November 29, 2006, chairman, president and CEO of Weyerhaeuser, Steve Rogel, accepted the Ron Brown Award from U.S. Secretary of Commerce Carlos M. Gutierrez at a ceremony at the White House. Mr. Rogel accepted the award and dedicated it to Weyerhaeuser's disaster relief coordinator, Katy Taylor, along with the partners and volunteers who attended the ceremony.

Also recognized in the White House ceremony was the North Carolina Baptist Builders, with whom Weyerhaeuser teamed up in the gulf coast relief efforts. The North Carolina Baptist Builders is a faith-based organization that set forth a large mission to rebuild 600 homes along the coast. To the credit of the Baptist Builders, the Weyerhaeuser Company recognized their "smoothly run rebuilding operation to keep projects moving." It is this kind of forward thinking and teamwork that makes the Weyerhaeuser Company so deserving of the Ron Brown Award.

I am honored to have such a wonderful and dedicated company that operates in Mississippi in places such as Magnolia, Philadelphia, and Richland. Weyerhaeuser Company has been operating in Mississippi since 1956 with approximately 1,700 employees and 776,000 acres of timberland.

The dedication of Weyerhaeuser to the community is astounding and sets a shining example to other businesses about the importance of community service and helping the less fortunate. To date, over 300 employees and retirees from across the United States and Canada have volunteered more than 42,000 hours of their time and helped rebuild 50 plus homes. Weyerhaeuser has a truly generous policy of allowing employees 2 to 4 weeks' paid leave to help volunteer in the rebuilding efforts of the gulf coast. Not only does it pay its employees while they are volunteering their time, but it also pays their way and their spouses' way for the rebuilding efforts. Now, over a year later, Weyerhaeuser employees are still participating in reconstruction efforts and have contributed a combined disaster relief to date totaling more than \$2.8 million. This is nothing short of extraordinary.